

THE
Urban District Council
—OF—
. Stourbridge .

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND THE
Sanitary Inspector . . .
. . For 1904. . .

Stourbridge :—

J. T. FORD, PRINTER, LITHOGRAPHER AND STATIONER,
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THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF STOURBRIDGE.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1904

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my 3rd Annual Report on the health of the district for the year 1904, together with vital statistics.

Area.—The district is sub-divided as follows:—

Stourbridge	...	...	453	acres.
Wollaston	...	...	476	"
Upper Swinford	...	...	991	"
making a total area of 1920 acres.				

Population.—The population of the entire district according to the census of 1901 was 16302, which is made up as follows:—

Stourbridge	...	...	10372
Wollaston	...	...	2655
Upper Swinford	...	...	3275

Estimated Population.—The estimated population at the middle of 1904 is as follows:—

Stourbridge	...	...	10714
Wollaston	...	...	2768
Upper Swinford	...	...	3308
giving a total of 16790.				

The average number of persons per acre is:—

Stourbridge	...	...	23.65
Wollaston	...	...	5.81
Upper Swinford	...	...	3.33

Births.—The births numbered 463, of which 232 were males, and 231 were females.

The birth rate for whole district is 27·57, compared with 468 births and a birth rate of 28·2 for 1903.

The births and birth rates for each district were as follows:—

	No. of Births.		Birth Rate.
Stourbridge	... 313	... 29·21	
Wollaston	... 73	... 26·37	
Upper Swinford	... 77	... 23·27	

Deaths.—Total number of deaths belonging to the district is as follows:—

Males	...	...	154
Females	...	...	134
			—
	Total	...	288

giving a death rate of 17·15, compared with 242 deaths and a nett death rate of 14·53 in 1903.

The deaths registered in each district were as follows:—

Stourbridge	...	177	compared with 142 in 1903.
Wollaston	...	36	„ „ 35 „
Upper Swinford	...	44	„ „ 32 „

There were 31 deaths of persons residents of the district occurring in institutions beyond the district, viz :—

	Stourbridge.	Wollaston.	Upper Swinford.
Workhouse	...	23	0 2
Corbett Hospital	...	2	1 0
Infectious Diseases Hospital	1	0	0
General Hospital, Birmingham	1	0	0
Private Hospital, Birmingham	0	1	0
	—	—	—
Total	27	2	2

thus making total deaths and death rates:—

	Deaths.	Death Rate.
Stourbridge	... 204	19·04
Wollaston	... 38	13·72
Upper Swinford	... 46	13·90

The death rate calculated on the actual number of deaths occurring in the district is 15·30, compared with 12·56 in 1903.

The Registrar General has supplied the following information:

England and Wales. Year 1904.

	Annual Rates per 1000 living.				Infant Mortality: Annual Death Rate of Infants under 1 year, per 1000 births.
	Births.	Deaths from all causes.	Deaths from seven chief Epidemic Diseases.		
England and Wales	... 27·9	16·2	1·94		146
76 great towns	... 29·1	17·2	2·49		160
142 smaller towns	... 27·5	15·6	2·02		154

These rates are subject to revision.

The mean age at death of the deaths registered in the district is 34 years, compared with 37 in 1903, and the nett mean age at death is 35 years, compared with 40 years in 1903.

The mean age at death is lower this year than last, owing to the fact that there were 35 more deaths in children under the age of 5 years than last year. The increased infantile mortality is due to the very severe epidemic of measles we experienced in the first half of the year, and which accounted for 34 deaths in children under 5 years of age. The higher death rate is also mainly explained in this way.

List of deaths in each month, age, periods and sex.

MONTH.	Under 1 Year	1—5	5—15	15—25	25—65	65 and up'rs.	Total.	Males.	Fem- ales.
January	1	1	0	0	7	1	10	8	2
February	3	1	0	0	8	4	16	8	8
March	5	7	3	1	13	8	37	18	19
April	5	11	4	1	10	7	38	25	13
May	9	7	1	3	7	10	37	19	18
June	5	6	1	0	3	9	24	17	7
July	3	2	1	0	5	4	15	7	8
August	10	1	1	0	10	4	26	14	12
September	5	0	0	2	5	8	20	10	10
October	1	3	0	0	4	8	16	8	8
November	8	2	0	0	3	6	19	9	10
December	8	1	1	1	11	8	30	11	19
Total, 1904	63	42	12	8	86	77	288	154	134
Aver. of Years 1895 to 1903	67	27	10	7	76	70	261	134	128

Street List of Deaths.

STREET.	No. of Deaths	STREET.	No. of Deaths
STOURBRIDGE.			
Angel Street	...	Summer Street	...
Bank Street	...	Talbot Street	...
Bagley Street	...	Theatre Road	...
Baylie Street	...	Union Street	...
Beale Street	...	Victoria Street	...
Birmingham Street	...	West Street	...
Bowling Green Lane	...	Wheeler Street	...
Brook Street	...	Worcester Street	...
Chapel Street	...	Yardley Street	...
Clark Street	...	WOLLASTON.	
Cleveland Street	...	Bowling Green Lane	...
Cherry Street	...	Bridgnorth Road	...
Cemetery Road	...	Duncombe Street	...
Cecil Street	...	Fir Grove	...
Cliff	...	Firmstone Street	...
Coventry Street	...	Gladstone Read	...
Court Street	...	High Street	...
Church Street	...	King Street	...
Duke Street	...	Ridge Street	...
Envile Street	...	Vicarage Road	...
Foster Street	...	Wood Street	...
Green Street	...	UPPER SWINFORD.	
Glebe Lane	...	Back Lane	...
Giles Hill	...	Brook Road	...
Hanbury Passage	...	Chawnhill	...
Hagley Road	...	Corser Street	...
Heath Street	...	Field Lane	...
Hemplands	...	Furlongs	...
High Street	...	Greenfield Terrace	...
Hill Street	...	Glass House Hill	...
Lion Street	...	Hagley Road	...
Mamble Road	...	Heath, The	...
Market Street	...	Heath Lane	...
Mill Street	...	High Street	...
Mount Street	...	Love Lane	...
New Road	...	Norton Road	...
New Street	...	Shepherd's Brook	...
Norton Road	...	Worcester Lane	...
Pargeter Street	...	Workhouse	...
Park Street	...	Corbett Hospital	...
Parkfield Road	...	Infectious Diseases Hosp.	...
Pool Street	...	General Hospital, B'ham.	...
Queen Street	...	Private Hospital, B'ham.	...
Round Court	...	Total	288
Swan Street	...		
Short Street	...		
South Avenue	...		
South Street	...		

Infantile Mortality.—There were 63 deaths of children under 1 year of age:—

Stourbridge	...	...	44
Wollaston	...	...	9
Upper Swinford	...	...	10

The percentage of deaths in children under 1 year to births registered was 13·58, compared with 12·39 for last year.

The average number of deaths in children under 1 year for previous 9 years is 67.

The percentage rates for previous years and the percentage rates in England were as follows:—

Year.	No. of Deaths.	Percentage.	Percentage England and Wales.
1895	70	15·0	16·1
1896	63	14·1	14·8
1897	82	17·7	15·6
1898	74	16·2	16·0
1899	68	14·1	16·3
1900	77	16·4	15·4
1901	72	15·0	15·1
1902	51	10·9	13·3
1903	58	12·39	

Table showing causes of Infantile Deaths and Months in which they occurred.

CAUSE.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec	Total
Premature Birth	2	..	4	1	..	1	..	1	1	3	13
Diarrhoea	6	2	..	..	..	8
Broncho-Pneumonia ..	I	..	I	I	..	I	..	..	I	..	2	..	7
Measles	I	..	2	I	..	I	..	..	..	..	5
Debility	I	..	I	I	..	..	5
Rickets	I	..	..	..	..	2	3
Congenital Heart Dis.	I	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2
Inanition	I	..	I	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Dentition	I	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	I	2
Suffocation	I	..	..	I	..	..	..	..	2
Spina Bifida	I	..	..	I	..	2
Bronchitis	I	..	I	..	2
Marasmus	I	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	I
Intestinal Tuberculosis	I	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	I
Imperfect Aeration of Lungs	I	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	I
Pulmonary Tuber-culosis	I	..	..	..	..	..	..	I
Jaundice	I	..	..	..	..	..	..	I
Pneumonia	I	..	..	..	..	..	I
Convulsions	I	..	..	..	..	..	I
Whooping Cough	I	..	I
Congenital Obliter-ation of Bile Duct	I	..	I
Difficult Birth	I	..	I
Total ..	I	3	5	5	9	5	3	10	5	I	8	8	63

The Health Missioner reports to me as follows :—

“ During the year 1904 I have visited 244 infants and paid 734 “ visits.

“ I think the infant feeding among the labouring class is on the “ whole satisfactory for the past year, more infants having been fed at “ the breast, and less bread, etc., given than during any year that I “ have worked here. This applies to women with three or more “ children.

“ On the other hand, there are a number of young women with “ their first infant with no breast milk, or very little.

“ These women are rather difficult to deal with, they can generally “ afford to buy any patent food that takes their fancy at the most “ impressionable moment, and the one selected is generally that “ advised by the mid-wife in attendance. The mid-wife, if she does “ nothing worse, invariably advises a little gruel until the milk comes.

“ As we are likely to have the certified mid-wife with us for some “ time to come, I think she might be given some definite instruction “ as to the making of artificial mother’s milk, barley water, albumen “ water, etc.”

With these last remarks of the Health Missioner I entirely agree. Among the poorer classes, any advice the mid-wife may think fit to give (and this she is rather fond of giving), is, in the majority of cases, faithfully carried out. Therefore it is important the mid-wife should be taught to give that advice which will be for the welfare of both mother and child.

I may here also remark that I am of the opinion that a great amount of good would result if girls in the higher standards of our Elementary Public Schools received instructions in the elements of Hygiene and also concerning the feeding and general care of infants. It is to the rising generation that we must chiefly look to for reform.

Zymotic Diseases :—The number of zymotic deaths during the year was 54, and the zymotic death rate was 3·21 per 1000 of population, compared with 11, and a rate of .66 for 1903.

The zymotic deaths were as follows :—

	Stourbridge.	Wollaston.	Upper Swinford.
Measles	... 24	5	11
Scarlet Fever	... 1	0	0
Whooping Cough	... 3	0	0
Enteric Fever	... 2	0	0
Diarrhoea	... 6	2	0
	—	—	—
Total	36	7	11

The zymotic death rate per 1000 population for the different localities being :—

Stourbridge	...	...	3·36
Wollaston	...	...	2·52
Upper Swinford	...	...	3·32

The death rate for each disease was :—

	Stourbridge.	Wollaston.	Upper Swinford.
Measles	... 2·24	1·80	3·32
Scarlet Fever	... .09	0	0
Whooping Cough	... .28	0	0
Enteric Fever	... .18	0	0
Diarrhoea	... .56	.76	0

The zymotic death rate for this year is higher than that for any previous year I have got recorded (since 1895).

This high zymotic death rate is entirely due to the 40 deaths from measles.

Measles.—I regret to have to record a very serious outbreak of measles in the district, commencing in the beginning of the year and continuing until the autumn. The disease not being notifiable in this district, it is quite impossible for me to state how many cases occurred, but from information I obtained it was quite evident that a large majority of children under the age of 5 years were afflicted. This disease accounted for no less than 40 deaths, of which 35 occurred in children under 5 years of age.

One death took place in April, at the Workhouse (the child being 6 years old).

Proportion of deaths to 1000 deaths :—

Whole District	...	...	138·88
Stourbridge	...	...	117·65
Wollaston	...	...	131·57
Upper Swinford	...	...	239·13

The percentage of deaths of children under 1 year to total deaths of children under 1 year is 7·93.

The percentage of deaths in children between the ages of 1 and 5 years to total deaths at this age period is 69·04.

The deaths occurred in the following months :—

MONTH.		Stourbridge.	Wollaston.	Upper Swinford.
February	...	0	1	0
March	...	7	1	0
April	...	11	1	3
May	...	5	0	2
June	...	0	0	4
July	...	1	1	2
August	...	0	1	0
Totals	...	24	5	11

This table shows that the disease was at its highest during the months of March, April, May and June.

Owing to the severity of the outbreak, I was in May, instructed by you, at the request of the Local Government Board, to specifically report to them thereon. I did so in the early part of June, a copy of such report being herewith appended.

Further remarks from me are therefore here unnecessary, but I wish to draw your attention to the small percentages (with perhaps one exception) of children under 5 years of age attending public schools at the time these various schools were closed, and, also as such a large percentage of the deaths were in children of this tender age, I emphasize my condemnation of the unwise practice of parents sending their children to school before being compelled to do so, especially considering that they do so, not from any particular interest they may have regarding the child's mental welfare, but most generally as a matter of convenience to themselves.

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF STOURBRIDGE.

EPIDEMIC OF MEASLES, 1904.

To THE SECRETARY,
LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.

Sir,

In accordance with your request made to the above Council, I have the honour to submit my Report on the Epidemic of Measles which has occurred in this district.

The District is divided into three localities, viz.:—Stourbridge, (population, estimated to middle of 1903, 10,608); Wollaston, (population, 2,733); Upper Swinford, (population, 3,298); making a total population for the entire district of 16,639.

The Epidemic commenced in February in the Wollaston district (and Ward), and one death occurred in this month. It extended to the West Ward (Stourbridge), which adjoins the Wollaston Ward, and during the month of March 7 deaths occurred in the West Ward and one in the Wollaston. The disease then extended to the South and East Wards of Stourbridge, the former being the most affected, and a few cases occurred on the fringe of the Upper Swinford district (and Ward), immediately adjoining Stourbridge South Ward.

In the month of April there were 14 deaths, occurring as follows :—

Wollaston Ward, 1; West Ward (Stourbridge), 6; South Ward (Stourbridge), 4; East Ward (Stourbridge), 1; Upper Swinford, 2.

During May the disease principally affected the South, East, and Upper Swinford Wards, and 7 deaths occurred, viz.:—South Ward (Stourbridge), 1; East Ward (Stourbridge), 4; Upper Swinford Ward, 2.

The following table shows Deaths, Age Period, and Ward in which they occurred.

WARD.	Total No. of Deaths at all Ages.	At Age Periods,		
		Under 1.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15
Wollaston ...	3	1	2	
West (Stourbridge) ...	13		10	3
South do. ...	5	2	3	
East do. ...	5	1	4	
Upper Swinford ...	4		4	
	30	4	23	3

It will be seen from the above table that the great majority of deaths (90 %) occurred in children under 5 years of age. There were 22 deaths in children under 3 years, giving a percentage of 73·3.

The death rates per 1000 of population are—Stourbridge, 1·38; Wollaston, 1·09; Upper Swinford, 1·21.

The disease not being notifiable it is impossible to state how many cases occurred. I received valuable assistance from the School Attendance Officers, who continually informed me as to the number of absentees from the various schools on account of measles.

I have had occasion to recommend the closing of all the schools in the district in the following order :—

Date of Closing.	School.	Ward.	Period Closed.	Percentage Attendance Boys.	Percentage Attendance Girls.	Percentage Attendance Infants.
Feb. 29th.	Wollaston St. James	Wollaston	1 cal. month	89·6	88·0	62·5
Mar. 12th.	Envile Street	West	3 weeks	89·8	87·2	71·6
Mar. 21st.	Wollaston Rd. Girls	West	2 weeks		82·7	No Infants attend this Sch'l
Mar. 22nd.	Wollaston Rd. Boys	West	2 weeks	89·1		
Apr. 11th.	Hill Street	South	4 weeks	90·5	72·2	60·9
Apr. 11th.	Envile Street	West	4 weeks			On re-opening about 23% were absent
Apr. 11th.	Wollaston Rd.	West	4 weeks			On re-opening about 17% were absent
Apr. 26th.	Roman Catholic	South	4 weeks	91·5	79·6	69·4
Apr. 27th.	St. John's	East	4 weeks	93·6	90·9	87·6
May 9th.	Oldswinford	Upper Swinford	4 weeks	94·3	82·3	73·5
May 9th.	Hill Street	South	2 weeks			On re-opening about 30% were absent
June 6th.	Oldswinford	Upper Swinford	4 weeks			On re-opening about 32% were absent

As such a large percentage of deaths occurred in children under 5 years of age, I procured the following information of the percentage attendance of children under the age of 5 years, attending the various schools at time of closing :—

	Percentage Attendance.
St John's ...	83·3
Roman Catholic ...	35·6
Envile Street ...	60·4
Hill Street ...	51·0
Wollaston St. James'	42·3
Oldswinford ...	52·1

In commenting on the above, considering the increased predisposition of young children contracting, and also the high mortality from, not only measles, but also other infectious diseases, I most strongly condemn the practice of parents sending their children to school before the compulsory age of 5 years.

In all but one of the fatal cases death resulted from lung complications, and in several cases medical advice was not obtained until such complications had occurred.

Many parents look upon the disease as an unavoidable child's ailment, and on this account do not realize the necessity of proper isolation and skilled treatment.

Means adopted to prevent spread of the disease :—

- (a) Closing and disinfection of day schools.
- (b) I also obtained sanction of the Council on April 25th, to write to Clergymen and Managers of Sunday Schools requesting them to discontinue holding their Sunday Schools and other assemblies of children and young persons in connection with their places of worship for one month. This request was courteously complied with in most cases.
- (c) At my request the Sanitary Committee ordered the printing of Cards as follows :—

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF STOURBRIDGE.

MEASLES.

Hints on its Prevention and Cure.

1. Children are not bound to have measles.
2. Avoid exposing your children to infection.
3. Do not allow children to run in and out of houses where children are suffering from measles.
4. Do not send any of your children to school when you have a case of measles in the house, nor until all in your home have been free from the disease for at least one month.
5. Measles is more fatal in young children than in older ones, and so it is especially important that precautions should be taken to prevent young children getting the disease.
6. Children suffering from the disease should be kept in bed until the rash and cough have gone.
7. Medical advice should be obtained in the early stages of the disorder to be efficacious. It is ridiculous of parents trusting to household remedies in severe cases of this disease.
8. During an epidemic of measles, DON'T let your children go to places where other children assemble if it can be avoided.

Issued by order of the Sanitary Committee of the Urban Council of Stourbridge.

(Signed),

JOHN WARR, *Chairman of the Sanitary Committee.*

H. WILBERFORCE FREER, *Medical Officer of Health.*

Commenting on the above, I am convinced that the closing of schools, in order to be a means of preventing the spread of infectious disease, should be general on the onset of a threatened epidemic, as in this district most of the schools draw their scholars from all parts of the district.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

H. WILBERFORCE FREER.

*Stourbridge,
June, 1904.*

Scarlet Fever.—Twenty-three cases of scarlet fever were notified to me during the year, occurring in each month, as shewn in table below, of which 9 were removed to the infectious hospital:—

MONTH.	Stourbridge.	Wollaston.	Upper Swinford.	Total.
January ...	1	0	0	1
February	1	0	2	3
March ...	3	0	2	5
April ...	0	0	0	0
May ...	1	0	0	1
June ..	1	0	0	1
July ...	0	1	0	1
August ...	0	0	0	0
September	0	0	0	0
October ...	6	0	1	7
November	2	0	0	2
December	2	0	0	2
Totals ...	17	1	5	23

One death occurred in Wheeler Street.

The disease has been far less prevalent than in the past 2 years, there having been 39 cases and 2 deaths in 1903, and 96 cases and 6 deaths in 1902.

Proportion of deaths to 1000 deaths:—

	1904	1903	1902
Stourbridge ...	4·90	6·06	6·57
Wollaston ...	0	25·00	22·45
Upper Swinford ...	0	0	93·02

Percentage of deaths to cases notified:—

	1904	1903	1902
Stourbridge ...	5·88	4·00	2·56
Wollaston ...	0	12·5	2·94
Upper Swinford ...	0	0	17·39

Table showing number of cases, number of deaths, and percentage of deaths to cases notified.

Year.	Cases.	Deaths.	Per cent. of deaths to cases notified.
1898	44	0	
1899	31	3	9.67
1900	76	3	3.96
1901	120	5	4.16
1902	96	6	6.25
1903	39	2	5.12
Average for years 1898-03	67.66	3.16	4.67
1904	23	1	4.34

I stated in my last Annual Report that the decrease in the number of cases proved that the preventive measures available, viz:—isolation and disinfection were important factors in checking the spread of this disease. The continued decline in the incidence of this disease confirms this statement.

Whooping Cough.—This disease has been somewhat prevalent during the year, and accounted for 3 deaths. Whooping cough and measles are not infrequently associated.

Diphtheria.—The district has been entirely free from this disease during the year, no case having been notified to me.

Last year there were two cases, one of which was imported from Aston.

It is gratifying to note that no death has occurred from this disease since 1900.

Table showing number of cases notified and number of deaths:

Year.	Cases.	Deaths.
1896	15	8
1897	3	0
1898	6	2
1899	4	0
1900	11	2
1901	14	0
1902	4	0
1903	2	0
1904	0	0
Average of years from 1896 to 1904	6.5	1.3

Enteric Fever.—Seven cases were reported during the year, compared with 8 in 1903, and 10 in 1902.

Five of the cases were removed to the Hospital.

Two deaths occurred, both being males, between the ages of 25 and 65 years, one at the Hospital and the other at No. 21, Green Street.

All of the cases occurred in the Stourbridge locality.

I was unable to trace the origin of the disease in three of these cases. As regards the other four cases, insanitary conditions were found, all of which were immediately remedied.

Table showing number of cases and number of deaths:—

Year.	No. of Cases.	Deaths.
1895	3	0
1896	5	0
1897	5	1
1898	6	0
1899	8	0
1900	25	3
1901	5	1
1902	10	3
1903	8	3
Average of years 1895 to 1903.	8.62	1.22
1904	7	2

The percentage of deaths to cases notified during the year was 28.57, compared with 50 in 1903, and 30 in 1902.

Proportion of deaths to 1000 deaths:—

	1904.	1903.	1902.
Stourbridge	9.80	18.18	13.15
Wollaston	0	25.00	0
Upper Swinford	0	0	23.25

Diarrhoea.—This disease was responsible for 8 deaths (all in children under 1 year), compared with 2 for 1903, and 4 for 1902.

Six of the deaths occurred in Stourbridge, and 2 in Wollaston. (I may mention that no deaths have occurred in Upper Swinford during the past 3 years).

Proportion of deaths to 1000 deaths:—

	1904.	1903.	1902.
Stourbridge	26.46	6.06	19.73
Wollaston	52.63	25.00	20.42

The percentage of deaths to total deaths of children under 1 year is, Stourbridge 13.59, and Wollaston 22.22, and for the whole of the district 12.69.

Table showing deaths and death rates for six years, 1898 to 1903, and compared with 1904:—

Year.	Deaths.	Death Rate.
1898	9	.56
1899	9	.56
1900	1	.06
1901	2	.12
1902	4	.24
1903	2	.12
Average of years 1898 to 1903.	4.5	.27
1904	8	.47

It will be seen from the above table that the death rate from this disease is higher this year than it has been since 1899, and considerably above the average for the six previous years. This is, in great measure, explained by the unusually hot weather we experienced during the year.

List of Notifications of Infectious Diseases.

DISEASE.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet Fever ..	1	3	5	0	1	1	1	0	0	7	2	2	23
Enteric ..	2	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	7
Erysipelas ..	2	2	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	11
Puerperal ..	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total ..	5	5	7	1	3	3	2	2	1	7	3	3	42

Street List of Notifications of Infectious Disease.

STREET.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Erysipelas	Puerperal Fever.	Total
STOURBRIDGE.					
Birmingham Street ...	1	I			2
Brook Street ...	2				2
Cleveland Street ...	I				I
Clifton Street...	I				I
Coventry Street ...		I			I
Church Street ...			I		I
Envile Street ...		I			I
Green Street ...		I			I
Gig Mill ...				I	I
Hagley Road...	I			I	2
Hanbury Passage ...			I		I
Hill Street ...	2				2
High Street ...	I	2	I		4
Lawn Street ...	I				I
Lower Hill Street ...			I		I
Mamble Road ...		I			I
Norton Road ...	1				I
Red Hill ...	I				I
Wheeler Street ...	2				2
Witton Street...	I				I
Worcester Street ...	2				2
WOLLASTON.					
Bridgnorth Road ...				3	3
High Street ...			I		I
Laburnam Street ...	I				I
UPPER SWINFORD.					
Field Lane ...				I	I
Hagley Road...	I				I
Heath Lane ...	3			I	4
High Street ...	I				I
Totals ...	23	7	11	1	42

Chest Diseases. — Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy accounted for 38 deaths, viz. :—

	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia.	Pleurisy.
Stourbridge	22	4	2
Wollaston	2	1	0
Upper Swinford	4	3	0
	—	—	—
Totals	28	8	2

The proportion of deaths to 1000 deaths :—

	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia.	Pleurisy.
Stourbridge	107.83	19.60	9.80
Wollaston	52.63	26.31	0
Upper Swinford	86.97	65.20	0

Nine of the deaths from Bronchitis and one from Pneumonia occurred in infants under 1 year, and 4 deaths from Bronchitis and 3 from Pneumonia in children of 1 year and under 5 years of age.

Death rates per 1000 of population :—

	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia.	Pleurisy.
Stourbridge	1.12	.37	.18
Wollaston	.72	.36	0
Upper Swinford	1.20	.90	0

Pulmonary Tuberculosis, (Phthisis). — There were 18 deaths from this disease, viz. :— Stourbridge, 14, Wollaston 2, Upper Swinford 2; compared with 24 in 1903, viz. :— Stourbridge 15, Wollaston 6, Upper Swinford 3.

The proportion of deaths to 1000 deaths being—Stourbridge 68.62, Wollaston 52.63, Upper Swinford 43.47.

Death rates per 1000 population were—Stourbridge 13.0, Wollaston .72, Upper Swinford .60.

The comparison of death rates per 1000 population :—

1904	...	...	1.07
1903	...	...	1.44
1902	...	...	.97
1901	...	...	1.04
1900	...	...	.74

In England and Wales the death rate in 1902 was 1.23,
1901 „ 1.26,
1900 „ 1.04.

Voluntary Notification of Pulmonary Tuberculosis. — Though personally I am in favour of a voluntary system, I do not at the present time recommend its adoption, owing to the fact that medical opinions differ considerably as to the benefits that may result from the notification of the disease.

The principal reasons from a Public Health point of view why I am in favour of notification of this disease, are :—

1. Immediate detection of insanitary conditions, such as over-crowding, dampness, and insufficient lighting and ventilation of houses.

2. Being able to give instructions regarding precautions to be taken to prevent the spread of the disease.

3. To be able to supply patients with suitable receptacles for sputum.

4. When thought advisable to notify employers of sufferers, so that the necessary precautions may be taken for the safety of fellow workers.

5. Disinfection of houses in cases of removal.

In my opinion all houses where deaths have occurred from this disease should be disinfected and cleaned.

Bacteriological Examination.—The Worcestershire County Council have undertaken to make bacteriological examination in cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, Enteric Fever, and Diphtheria free of charge.

These examinations will be useful, in that they will confirm the diagnosis in obscure cases.

Cancer.—This disease caused 15 deaths, viz.:—Stourbridge 9, Wollaston 3, Upper Swinford 3.

The deaths in 3 previous years were:—

	1903	1902	1901
Stourbridge	...	13	7
Wollaston	...	1	4
Upper Swinford	...	1	2

Comparison of the proportion of deaths to 1000 deaths being:—

	1904	1903	1902	1901
Stourbridge	...	44.11	78.78	46.05
Wollaston	...	78.94	25.00	81.60
Upper Swinford	...	65.21	27.02	23.25

Death rate per 1000 of population:—

Stourbridge	...	.84	1.23	.66	.67
Wollaston	...	1.08	.36	1.48	.37
Upper Swinford	...	.90	.30	.30	.61

The Registrar General's report for 1901 stated that in this year the mortality from the disease was higher than in any previous year, and in his report for 1902, he states that the cancer mortality amongst females exceeded previous records.

Comparison of death rates for whole district per 1000 of population:—

1904	...	...	.89
1903	...	...	.90
1902	...	...	.72
1901	...	...	.61
England & Wales	1901	...	.84
	1902	...	.84

Precautions taken to prevent spread of notifiable Infectious Diseases:—

All cases were visited by me and your Sanitary Inspector, and all sanitary defects found were attended to.

At one house where 2 cases of enteric fever occurred, the drains were generally defective.

Disinfection.—Every infected house was disinfected with Formalin, and the bedding and clothing were taken to the Infectious Hospital for disinfection by super heated steam.

Disinfecting solution was supplied to the occupiers for cleansing purposes.

I may add that all the public schools were closed and fumigated on account of the outbreak of measles (not notifiable in this district), and one school was closed for 4 days for disinfection and cleansing purposes owing to the occurrence of scarlet fever.

Factory and Workshops Acts. 1.—Inspection.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	156	23	0
Workplaces	2	1	0
Homeworkers' Premises	30	2	0
Total ..	188	31	0

2.—Defects found.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.		
	Found.	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector.
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>			
Want of cleanliness	12	12	
Want of Ventilation	2	2	
Overcrowding	3	3	
Other nuisances	6	6	
†Sanitary accommodations			
{ insufficient	2	2	
{ unsuitable or defective	2	2	
{ not separate for sexes . .	1	1	
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>			
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (Ss. 97 to 100)	8	8	2
Failure as regard lists of outworkers (S. 107) ..	2	2	
Giving out work to be done in premises which are infected (S. 110)	2	2	
Total ..	40	40	2

* Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 8, of the Factory Act as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

†For districts not in London state here whether Section 22 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, has been adopted by the District Council; and if so what standard of sufficiency and suitability of sanitary accommodation for persons employed in factories and workshops has been enforced.

Section 22 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, was adopted in 1902. Separate accommodation is required, but as there are not any factories or workshops employing large numbers of workers in this district, therefore no standard of sufficiency.

3.—Other Matters.

Class.		Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspectors of Factories :—		
Failure to affix Abstract of Factory and Workshop Act (S. 133)		7
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspectors as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the factory Act (S. 5)	Notified by H.M. Inspector ..	7
	Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspectors ..	5
Homework :—		
<i>Lists of Outworkers</i> (S. 107) :—		Number of Lists. Outworkers
Lists received	22	68
Addresses of Outworkers { forwarded to other Authorities ..	38	
	received from other Authorities ..	4
<i>Homework in unwholesome or infected premises</i> :—		
Cases of infectious disease notified in homeworkers' premises		2
Orders prohibiting homework in infected premises (S. 110)		2
Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at the end of 1904	..	208
Total number of workshops on Register ..		208

A detailed account of the work done under this act is included in the report of your Sanitary Inspector.

Midwives' Act.—Although this act has not, as yet, actually come into force, it has given me satisfaction to see a marked improvement in the method the midwives in this district carry out their duties.

Prosecutions.—There were 5 cases taken before the magistrates during the year, each with successful results. They were :—1 overcrowding, 1 insanitary premises, 1 polluted well water, 2 recovery of expenses incurred in providing water closets.

House Accommodation.—Three houses were closed by the owners during the year, on account of defective state.

One house, which had been previously closed by order of the magistrates, was repaired and re-opened.

Two were demolished by order of the Council and 2 by the owner.

Six houses in Theatre Road, closed by the owner in 1901, after notice, were demolished.

Seventy-six houses were built during the year. Many of these houses are adapted to the requirements of the average artizan.

In my Annual Report for last year I stated that the number of houses built in 1903, viz. :—74, was double the number of houses erected in any one year during the six previous years. It is evident that private enterprise has been stimulated through the steps the Council took regarding the Housing question.

Water Supply.—A few houses in the district still procure their water supply from wells, but most of the houses are supplied by the Stourbridge Water Works Company. During the year 3 samples of water were condemned by the County Analyst.

Burial Grounds.—There are three. This Council's Cemetery, and the Oldswinford and Wollaston Churchyards.

House Refuse.—The erection of a Refuse Destructor, opened in November, is, from a sanitary point of view, a momentous acquisition, in that it will remove the objectional method of tipping offensive refuse in places often unavoidably undesirable.

Drainage.—Nearly all the houses are drained to the sewers which were laid down 18 years ago, and a great majority of houses are now provided with water closets. The Stourbridge Main Drainage Board convey the sewage to Whittington Farm, where it is treated on the broad irrigation principle.

The Sanitary Inspector's Report deals with bake-houses, slaughter houses, dairies and cowsheds, common lodging houses, the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, and the general abatement of nuisances.

Bye-Laws.—The existing Bye-Laws were approved by the Local Government Board in 1890, and are at present being revised.

Vaccination.—A number of parents still avail themselves of the opportunity of taking their children outside the district in order to have only one vesicle produced, which affords very imperfect protection against small pox.

Small Pox.—No case occurred. Considering that several of the neighbouring districts had cases to deal with during the year, it is indeed fortunate that this district has entirely escaped. It is important that provision for the isolation of small pox should be made. I trust that this question will receive the early consideration of the Council.

In conclusion, I will here record the measures adopted with a view to benefiting the public health during the past few years.

This district is now provided with an Infectious Diseases Hospital (scarlet fever, enteric fever, diphtheria), Public Baths, Recreation Ground, and Refuse Destructor.

I would I were able to add to this list—1st, Suitable provision for the isolation of small pox; 2nd, an Abattoir; 3rd, a Mortuary.

Appended are L. G. B. Schedules, together with a table of comparison of various diseases.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. WILBERFORCE FREER,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., LONDON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Table I. Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1904 and previous years.

YEAR.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.			NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.		
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Number ..	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.		Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in district.
			Rate.*	Number	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1895	..	15475	464	29.98	70	150.86	255	16.47
1896	...	15615	445	28.49	63	141.57	243	15.56
1897	...	15757	463	29.38	82	177.10	277	17.51
1898	...	15901	456	28.67	74	162.28	246	15.47
1899	...	16045	479	29.85	68	141.96	266	16.57
1900	...	16191	469	28.96	77	164.17	302	18.65
1901	...	16339	478	29.25	72	150.62	237	13.89
1902	...	16489	467	28.32	51	109.20	212	12.85
1903	...	16639	468	28.12	58	123.93	209	12.56
Averages for years 1895 to 1903		16050	465	28.99	68	146.81	249	15.54
1904		16790	463	27.57	63	13.585	257	15.30
								31
								288
								17.15

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Table II. Vital Statistics of Separate Localities in 1904 and previous years.

Table III.
Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1904.

Table IV. **Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1904.**

Causes of Death.	Deaths in or belonging to whole District at Subjoined Ages.							Deaths in or belonging to Localities [at all Ages].		
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Stourbridge	Wollaston.	Upper Swinford.
Small-pox ... ..	..								
Measles	40	5	29	6				24	5	11
Scarlet Fever... ...	1		1					1		
Whooping-cough	3	1	2					3		
Diphtheria and Mem- braneous croup ..										
Croup										
Typhus										
Fever Enteric	2						2	2		
(Other continu'd										
Epidemic influenza										
Cholera										
Plague										
Diarrhœa	8	8						6	2	
Enteritis										
Puerperal fever										
Erisipelas										
Other septic diseases										
Phthisis	18	1	1	1	4	10	1	14	2	2
Other tubercular diseases	3	1		1		1	1	1	2	
Cancer, malignant disease	15					10	5	9	3	3
Bronchitis	28	9	4			5	10	22	2	4
Pneumonia	8	1	3	2		1	1	4	1	3
Pleurisy	2					1	1	2		
Other diseases of Respi- ratory organs	1					1		1		
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver	5					4	1	3		2
Venereal diseases	1					1		1		
Premature birth	13	13						7	3	3
Diseases and accidents of parturition	2				1	1		2		
Heart diseases	31	2		1		19	9	21	7	3
Accidents	3	2				1		3		
Suicides	2					2		1		1
All other causes	102	20	2	1	3	27	49	77	10	15
All causes	288	63	42	12	8	86	77	204	38	46

Table of Comparison of various Diseases.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1904.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE
Urban District Council of Stourbridge.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1904, being my fourth annual report.

During the year I received and attended 97 special Complaints, and in attending to these complaints, and in making general, and house to house inspections, I met with 849 nuisances, defects, or breaches of your Bye-laws. 185 sanitary defects were brought forward from the year 1903, making a total of 1034, and during the year 1904, 929 defects were remedied, leaving 105 at the end of the year. I made 630 inspections of houses and premises, and 1188 re-inspections.

The number of preliminary notices served was 239, compared with 168 in 1903. 208 notices were complied with, and a number of nuisances were abated after verbal notice.

254 statutory notices were served by your orders, after my monthly reports to your Sanitary and General Purposes Committee, against 208 in 1903. The following table describes the notices and gives results:—

Act and Sec. under which notice was served.	No. of notices.	Complied with.	Prosecutions taken.	Not compl'd with.	Work in progress to comply with notices.
Public Health Act, 1875, Sec. 94 ..	84	56	2	18	8
" " " Sec. 36 ..	127	101	2	21	3
Housing of Working Classes Act, 1890, Sec. 32..	12	12			
" " " Sec. 33..	3	2		1	
Towns Improvement Clauses Act, 1847, Sec. 74..	21	21			
Factory and Workshop Act, 1902 ..	2	2			
Notices under Bye-laws ..	5	5			
Totals ..	254	199	4	40	11

During the year you ordered 16 prosecutions to be taken, but it was only necessary to take out 6 summonses, and one of these was withdrawn before being served, as I happened to meet the owner of the property to which it referred, and he immediately had the work put in hand; in the remaining 9 cases the work was commenced after the persons concerned were informed that legal proceedings were to be instituted. Details of the 5 cases are given in the following table:—

Council meeting.	Premises.	Offence or cause of Prosecution.	Results.
May	No. 1, Court 13, Mount Street	Overcrowding	17th June, ordered to immediately abate the nuisance, and pay costs.
„	26, Vicarage Road	Defective premises	17th June, ordered to do the work required, and pay costs.
Sept.	Park Hill Lodge, Valley Road	Polluted well	7th October, well ordered to be closed, and costs to be paid.
Nov.	30, King Street	Recovery of expenses for providing a sufficient w.c.	Owner paid full amount of expenses & court fees upon receipt of summons
	31, „	„ „ „	

I had occasion to apply for a Magisterial Order for admittance to premises for the purpose of examining as to the existence of a nuisance.

Factory and Workshop Act.

There were 208 Workshops on the Register at the end of the year, the classes of work being carried on being:—Baking, Basket-making, Brewing, Botanic Beer-making, Boot-repairing, Brush-making, Cabinet-making, Chain-making, Carriage-building, Clogger, Coffin-making, Cooper, Cycle-repairing, Dress-making, Engraving, Glass-engraving, Hosiery, Horse Shoes, Horse-shoeing, Jewellery, Joinery, Laundry, Leather-dressing, Letter-cutting, Millinery, Nail-making, Plasterer, Picture-framing, Plumbing, Rug Clipping Dressing, Saddlery, Sewing Machine-repairs, Smithy, Stone Masonry, Tailoring, Tripe-dressing, Umbrella-making, Watch-making, Wheelwright, White-smith. I made 188 visits to Workshops during the year, and the defects found were—12 want of cleanliness, 2 want of ventilation, 3 overcrowding, and 6 other defects. At 2 workshops there was insufficient sanitary accommodation, and at 2 others the sanitary convenience were defective. I certified to your Sanitary Committee that two workshops required lime-washing, and legal notices were served upon the occupiers, who complied with them. At one workshop there was no sanitary convenience and you ordered me to prosecute the occupier, he, however, provided a water closet when informed of the pending legal proceedings.

Two notices were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories complaining of workshops, one of which was dirty, and the other ill-ventilated. These defects were subsequently remedied.

During the year I received 22 lists of outworkers, containing 68 names of persons who were outworkers, 38 of whom resided outside the district, and I forwarded the names to the various Councils in whose district they resided.

Bakehouses.

There are 30 Bakehouses on the Register, two bakehouses having been given up during the year, and one additional registered. I made 90 inspections. Five notices were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories respecting defects in bakehouses, and these were attended to. Four bakehouses had new floors laid, two were ventilated, two were repaired and had extra windows put in. I had occasion to send 6 preliminary notices regarding lime-washing of ceilings, and these were complied with. In 2 cases the Factory Inspector complained that the troughs were not moveable and the wall behind were not lime-washed; in these two cases, and several others I subsequently met with, the occupiers had the troughs either mounted on castors or made as to be easily moved.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

There are 33 registered Dairymen and Purveyors of Milk in the district, 23 being cowkeepers, and the remaining 10 being purveyors of milk only. There are 34 cowsheds in the district. Two persons ceased carrying on business during the year, and 3 persons were registered. During the year I made 91 inspections, and met with 3 cases of overcrowding and several where the cowsheds required limewashing, and had occasion to report the 3 cases of overcrowding and 2 cases of neglect to limewash. Notices were sent, and 2 cowsheds were enlarged, and in the other the number of cows were reduced. At one place pigs were being kept in the cowshed, but were removed after my visit.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are two registered houses in the town, and the returns of the lodgers each night at these two houses total for the year 4413 adult males, 1522 adult females, 3 males between 10 and 21 years, 173 males and 12 females under 10 years of age, making a total of 6123, compared with 5656 in 1903. I found one house being used as a common lodging house which was not registered.

Sale of Food and Drugs' Act.

Five samples were taken, viz.:—2 milk, 1 whisky, 1 pepper, 1 butter. They were sent to the County analyst and found to be genuine.

Infectious Diseases.

I visited premises and enquired into 37 cases of infectious disease, and in several instances found sanitary defects, which were subsequently dealt with. 30 houses were disinfected, and about 180 articles of bedding and clothing were sent to the Hospital for disinfection.

Offensive Trades.

The offensive trades carried on in the district are tripe boiling, fell-monger, and leather dressing. One person ceased carrying on business as a tripe boiler, and there are now 5 persons carrying on this class of trade.

Slaughter-houses.

Two applications for renewal of licenses were granted, and I received three notices of change of occupation of slaughter-houses. There are 21 registered and licensed slaughter-houses in the district. During the year I made 104 inspections, and only met with one lot of bad meat, this was immediately destroyed by the owner. An open drain was taken out of one slaughter-house, another one was efficiently drained, and one had the floor relaid. At one slaughter-house pigs were kept in a sty inside, the sty was subsequently partitioned off.

I found 8 persons who were slaughtering pigs for sale on unlicensed premises, and I had occasion to report these matters to your Sanitary Committee. The Committee decided that the delinquents should be warned of the offences. This question of pig killing upon unlicensed premises is a grievous point with butchers who have to have licensed slaughter-houses and conform with your Bye-laws regulating these places. Then, whilst the carcases and meat on licensed premises are constantly under supervision, there is absolutely no control of the meat sold from unlicensed places.

A general excuse made by those who slaughter on unlicensed premises is, because there is no place, other than private slaughter-houses, where they can take their pigs to be slaughtered, and that the few pigs they kill would not permit the erection of a slaughter-house.

If a public abattoir were provided in the district it would meet the requirements of house-holders who occasionally kill a pig, and the facilities afforded to butchers by a public abattoir may possibly be the means of closing many of the private Slaughter-houses.

Water Supply.

There are now about 24 houses in the district supplied with well water. During the year I sent 7 samples of water to the County Analyst, two of which he pronounced unfit for drinking purposes. One well was closed by Magisterial Order, and one well closed early in 1905 by the owner. Two other samples, from the same source, taken at different times, were considered unfit for drinking purposes. The owner of the house where these samples were taken, was quite willing to put in the town water if the Water Company would bring their mains to the front of his house. This matter was brought before your Sanitary and General Purposes Committee, and the Water Company approached. The Company took their mains down as required, early in 1905. Two houses were supplied with town water during the year.

General Summary.

Totals		Totals	
Houses repaired and made fit for habitation		Wash-houses repaired	12
29		Cases overcrowding abated	10
Houses closed by owners as unfit for habitation		Wells filled up	3
3		W.C.'s altered and repaired	17
Houses demolished by order of Council		W.C. flushing apparatus repaired	9
2		W.C. flush cisterns provided	4
Houses demolished by owners after having been closed as unfit for habitation		Internal W.C. soil pipes ventilated	2
8		Additional water closets provided	5
Houses cleansed and limewashed .. damp proofs courses put in ..		Privies converted into W.C.'s	132
16		Ashpits repaired and filled up to ground level	28
,, ventilated		Ashbins provided in place of ashpits	96
5		Urinals repaired	3
,, external walls cemented ..		Stables drained	2
31		Accumulations of refuse removed	13
,, roofs repaired		Pig keeping offences abated	12
15		Fowl keeping nuisances abated	3
,, provided with new rain water spouting at front		Blood deposited in manure middin	2
30		Pony kept in house cellar	1
,, R. W. spouting repaired at front		Manure middins built	3
13		Smoke nuisances abated	2
,, provided with new R. W. at rear		Visits to vans at fair ground	28
24		Workshops, uncleanly, remedied	12
,, R. W. spouting repaired at rear		„ ill ventilated, remedied	2
8		„ overcrowding abated	3
,, R. W. gutters under foot-path put in		„ other defects remedied	6
Cellars drained		„ insufficient sanitary accommodation	2
3		„ defective sanitary conveniences	2
Cellars lighted and ventilated		Cowsheds, overcrowding abated	3
3		„ required limewashing	8
New earthenware sinks provided		Slaughter-houses, floors relaid	1
11		„ drained, and drainage defects remedied	2
Sinks repaired			
6			
Sink waste water pipes provided			
25			
Yards paved or re-paved			
51			
Drains cleansed, repaired or relaid			
134			
New trapped gullies provided			
40			
House floors relaid			
10			
Defective house walls made secure			
12			
Wash-houses rebuilt			
2			
 No. of houses drains tested with smoke machine		29	
„ Official letters written		277	
„ Notices served		493	
„ Notices complied with		407	
„ Notices outstanding		86	

House Refuse.

The system of house to house collection of refuse has progressed a little during the year, and there have been less applications for removal of house refuse,

4268 loads of ashes and refuse, and 1066 loads of ashes and excrement have been removed, being the contents of 4142 ashpits and privies and 9256 portable receptacles, and the number of houses from which refuse was removed during the year was 14965.

At the end of 1904, there were 226 houses provided with portable receptacles, compared with 130 at end of 1903, and 49 at end of 1902.

I received, and paid to your Clerk, £2 11s. 8d., being charges for removing trade refuse during the year.

The system of having portable ashbins for house refuse is becoming more popular, but there are many places in the town, such as the houses along the routes of the trams, where the refuse has to be brought in the front street, and where the refuse has to be carried by hand up flights of steps, where the provision of portable bins would facilitate the removal of refuse. In November, 1902, I brought this matter before the Sanitary Committee, and the outcome was, the consideration of adopting Bye-laws under Sec. 26, sub-sec. 2 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, in view of compelling, where necessary, the provision of portable receptacles for house refuse.

In 1903, these Bye-laws were brought before your Bye-law Committee, but, as yet, nothing further has been done.

Privy Conversion.

During the year 132 privies have been converted into water closets, and 5 additional W.C.'s provided. Two conversions were done by your orders, and the expenses recovered from the owner.

Petroleum Acts.

There are 5 licensed retailers of petroleum in the district.

During the year I paid many visits to places where petroleum was likely to be stored, and tested two samples of petroleum.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ARTHUR KENT, A.R. SAN. I.,

Sanitary Inspector.

